

## NUMBER 51.

QUEBEC, December 18.—A train from Halifax on the Inter-colonial road, made up by a horrible accident forty miles from this city, at this morning. After leaving St. Joseph the second class car jumped the track, taking a others, including the sleeper with it. The second class car was thrown against the stone abutment of a street viaduct, smashing it in its splinters and killing five. Their names are Dolore Gauvin, Bass, Desmarre and Vintner. The latter was the news agent on board the train. The other cases were







25 JUL 1952

# Measures of Relief Considered by a Senate Committee.

Plas x P-10000 S-10000 Silver  
General

This will Not Permanently Satisfy  
Free-Collage Men.

Special Message on the "Cretary  
Situation" Reported.

### Financial Relief Propositions.

On Tuesday, December 13.—A Washington special to the Times says: There was much interest manifested in the meetings of the special republican senate committee of eleven to discuss the financial situation and devise means of relief. DeLamar, with the committee for the first time, having been appointed in Jones' place. No conclusion was reached at the meeting and it adjourned until this afternoon.

There are some indications that a compromise measure may be adopted, and the committee now has before it a proposition to issue bonds for the purpose of immediate purchase of the surplus silver of the country, amounting to about thirteen million dollars, with a provision for the redemption of national bank notes in silver as they fall due. Silver men on the committee say they would probably adopt this unless the condition is made that they must agree, if this is one, not to attempt to secure free coinage in a separate measure. They will not agree to this, they look upon all efforts of eastern men to secure immediate free coinage as a device to buy the purchase of the surplus as a sort of Koolhauf for inoculation against the variety of free coinage, as they regard it.

Silver men expect this condition to be imposed, and are not very hopeful of compromise between the gold-bugs and free-coinage men. They prefer to work in bar-vines, but say if they cannot gain an approximation to what they want, in this case, they can compromise, they will work for the gold standard, but not for free coinage in the open sense. They have very little fear of the senate, but recognize the fact that the president and the speaker of the house must be recognized, and not the senate. The silver war may be over, it is rumored. Kee's modified position on somewhat, and in conversation recently with members he has expressed his willingness to allow the house to record its opinions on the silver question by allowing some proposition to get the record of the house in the following way in favor of what he calls a "conservative action."

The house coinage committee will meet Monday next, and Wickham, of Ohio, whose name comes next on the list of members to that of ex Representative Conger, now minister to Brazil, will succeed that gentleman as chairman. It is understood Wickham has satisfied Speaker Reed that he will act in harmony with his views.

It is also asserted the president intends sending a special message to congress on the financial situation, and to give a hint of what legislation will meet his approval, but there is a condition understood that precedence must be given to the passage of the force bill. After that measure is passed the monetary trouble may be considered. At the present time the situation is chaotic; a few days may clarify the atmosphere somewhat.

**To Relieve Financial Stringency.**  
WASHINGTON, December 18.—The cabinet meeting yesterday considered the financial condition of the country, and as a result the president, it is understood, will send a messenger to congress early next week suggesting as a measure of relief the enactment of legislation for the issue of additional currency based on increased purchases of silver.

Secretary Windom, who is in New York city to-day, conferring with bankers as to the best method of affording relief, is said to favor the purchase of the present stock of silver, amounting to about \$3,000,000, and the purchase of an additional amount equal to the annual retirement of national bank notes.

**Millions Available.**

CINCINNATI, December 13.—United States Treasurer Huston stopped at Cincinnati on his way to Indianapolis, where his wife is ill. Suggesting a method for relieving the present financial distress, he said: "There is a scheme by which there might be about \$25,000,000 of a surplus secured that would relieve the gen-

era, the feeling of dread and uneasiness now existing. There are some \$5,000,000 in standard dollars lying idle in the vaults of the Federal Reserve Bank. There are about \$30,000,000 in gold dollars and in time. Now the government has no use for this. There is no call for gold dollars in silver, and most of the fractional silver could not be circulated any way because of being worn. Now here are \$35,000,000. Let congress authorize the secretary to change this into gold, to be put in the vaults of the treasury, and the congress would suspend the rules and the congress there would be an immediate relief afforded."

**Congressional Silver Pools**

WASHINGTON, December 13.—By invitation of the committee on rules, Representative Dockery, of Missouri, to-day appeared in that body in order to make a statement relative to his resolution for an inquiry as to the allegation that twelve senators and eleven representatives were parties to a silver pool prior to the passage of the silver bill, through which pool \$50,000,000 in profits were obtained. Mr. Dockery stated that he had no personal knowledge as to the facts of the case. His resolution was, however, submitted in a special Washington dispatch to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

While disclaiming any knowledge as to the truth of the dispatch, Mr. Dooley called the attention of the committee to the fact that on June 24, 1860, Mr. Conger, the chairman of the committee

on courage, wealth and measures, but  
not to follow my anxious way.  
Mr. Chairman, I have not said  
and again to our brave souls, it is  
long as I do a seat upon the floor  
of a man here, my vote shall be cast, and  
my vote raised for the people of this coun-  
try, for the brave men of this country,  
for the savings bank depositors of this  
country, for the oppressed and worried  
citizens of this country, instead of a  
few million owners of this country.  
I, the matter deserves investigation  
and the committee took the subject  
under advisement.

Messrs. Stevens and Appleton, the Washington correspondents of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, were brought in the afternoon and were asked the names of the senators and representatives in the pool, and the source of their information. They declined to give the names of any of the senators or the ground that might lead the investigating assembly. The committee took the matter under advisement and will hold another meeting Monday, when a decision will be reached.

Another Error to Correct.

WASHINGTON, December 18.—A misplaced parenthesis in the transcription of an error in the proofs of the McKinley tariff act. The committee in framing the law intended that wine, composed of sassa, sun and other grasses, should be a parent's bounty, and a separate rate of duty was imposed on binding wine; the committee, to make this clear, intended the words "except binding wine" should be enclosed in a parenthesis immediately following the word "wine." The parenthesis was omitted, and the words should read "except binding wine composed of sassa, sun and other grasses." It was contended that this had the effect of making only binding wine, composed of the grasses named, dutiable at the special rate. The committee considered a bill to be a favorable opportunity to correct the error.

**Favors Republican Control.**

Boston, December 28.—A special from Concord, N. H., to the Advertiser, (Republican) says: Your correspondent has been on the best author yet. The fewest of the house of representatives has decided to place on the roll of members of the next house the "entitled" representatives. This will give the house to the republicans by a large working majority, and will secure the election of William Tilton as governor and the United States senator. He has no yet formally announced that. This is his determination, but your correspondent has been able to give it on authority which cannot be questioned.

**The Requirements Met.**

WASHINGTON, December 12.—A. Torrey Genera. X.ier to-day returned to the president the papers in regard to the Columbus World's Fair with a statement that they meet all the requirements necessary for the president's proclamation. The president will now await word from the Spanish Agency as to the subscriptions, and in case he finds them satisfactory will make public announcement of the exposition.

**The Chicago Opinion.**

CHICAGO, December 13.—It is the opinion of a number of leading bankers of Chicago that the financial flurry is evident everywhere. The situation, they acknowledge, was serious, but magnified by insoucians who acted with imprudence.

**Wheels of Freight Trains.**

Pittsburg, December 23.—A freight engine ran into the rear of an east-bound freight train on the Kansas and Oklahoma line at Point of View this morning, wrecking the engine and one car. Conductor Fred, Engineer Sayer, Nigra, Wagonmaster, and a helper, James Clam, all were injured. The engine, Clam, and the wagonmaster were taken to the hospital, and the others were released on private cars.

Mrs. Parne's daughters, Emily, Ruth, and Fanny were living at home, and two of the sons, but Charles Stewart was reading for honors at Oxford university. The daughters were very attractive and interesting women, and Sojy was especially a very charming one as well. The boys were planning to take Clara, the youngest, to the college at Cambridge, and to study law.

A freight was wrecked on the A. & G. V. freight railway at St. West, Pennsylvania, last night, and the serious injuries to the train, cars and freight were the first of the season.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., December 23.—Two freight trains and a passenger train were wrecked here today. The passenger train was headed by Engineer Nico's and Fireman Gelse were serious injured. Both engines were completely destroyed and the train was torn up for nearly a mile. The east-bound freight train had no orders to stop. The west-bound freight was out for some unknown reason and the engine

afterward became so conspicuous.

Sir John Parnell, the father of Charles Stewart Parnell, had been dead for some time. Although he had married a young American girl, of whom he was very proud, yet he was not cordial in his admiration of Americans generally, and hesitated not to express his opinion freely. When his opinions were once proved to be true, they were like granite, immovable, and it is this trait of his character which Charles Stewart Parnell, his conspicuous son, inherited. Sir John was esteemed a peculiarly set and obstinate man, and

ATLANTA, Ga., December 13.—Two men shot and one fatally hurt, is the result of an auto collision on the Georgia coast, Virginia & Georgia road here. Four lives were lost yesterday afternoon. A north-bound freight, with a heavy engine, four light-weight cars and a caboose, was going at a high rate of speed around a curve, when the rails spread and the whole train was thrown from the track. Engineer Morgan (Chick), a young man whose home is in Nashville, Tenn., and a negro named Dock Gray, a fireman on the engine, were killed. Two others were crushed beneath the tender. Both were badly mangled and were taken when reached. Fireman W. C. Gerriss, a white man, was fatally injured. His home is in Atlanta.

**South African Troubles.**

LONDON, December 13.—English attention is directed to some extent from the Transvaal quarrel by the threatening cables from Lisbon and East Africa. Dispatches from Lisbon state that the popular excitement there is increasing, and that the ministry is rapidly losing control of the situation. Orders are issued by hundreds to fight, and the army officers and the news that the Portuguese flag had been hauled down at Malacá, caused a frenzy of excitement.

The supremes; some of them was an inheritance from the old commodore, who never knew what fear was. Sunny Zane possessed this quality in its highest degree. She was daring almost to recklessness when it came to pounds, and as a driver was happier when she controlled the most spirited, nervous and excitable horses to be found in Ireland. The other girls were brave, physically brave, and often displayed this fearlessness to the admiration of their mates. It was this quality of courage which rescued Charles Seward Parnell in his

With his brothers and sisters, now even Charles Stewart Pearce was more like associated after the days of war and misuses. He was sent away to school and afterward entered Oxford. During his long vacations he sometimes came home, but was more likely to remain away. Pearce is sometimes happy to hear the family but not see him for months at a time. He entered Oxford to study with his cousin named Edwards. He liked to play with this relative who is now, or was recently, a lawyer in Boston, but whose home is at Gardiner, Me. As Oxford, Charles Stewart was frequently absent. He was not a hard student. He had no many intimates. He was not so reserved or exclusive as no to make many casual acquaintances. He is, of course, many, fatherly.

would develop into a respectable, sports-loving country estate. He had inherited from his uncle, Sir Martin Howard, of London, a considerable property, which was well invested, and it was known that he expected to possess the Wickenow estate, of which he was very fond. He displayed, too, a mighty love of athletic sports, especially of shooting. In his vacations he was accustomed to go wherever good shooting could be obtained, and he usually spent the Christmas holidays in grouse shooting in Scotland. He was also very fond of sailing and driving—a trait which was the common denominator of most members of the family—and he was one of the most skilled drivers, and was famous when he had a nervous animal to manage.

So conspicuous was Parrel's fondness for sports that he was esteemed among his college mates as bound to make a career as a gentleman sportsman. His own family seemed to have no opinion of him; they never regarded him as a young man of especial promise, and it is said that some of them looked with amusement upon the revelation of his powers which he made after becoming a member of parliament. The hope of the family was rather centered in the eldest son, who became a barrister and practiced in London. Another son, John Parrel, they thought would develop into a great financier and would perhaps become a political power. He seemed to have far more inclination for public activity than ever Charles Stewart Parrel, indicated in the days of his youth. This son, however, was persuaded to come to America and buy a plantation. He did so, bought a peach farm, and has lived a quiet but happy and profitable life as a raiser of peaches in one of the southern states.

One of the daughters, one who was esteemed most beautiful, married a Mr. Livingstone, a very wealthy man, with an establishment in Paris, and there she lived for some years, moving in the very highest circles and dispensing hospitality in a manner which earned her the esteem of Christian society. She is now dead. Fanny Paré, was brought up by the family friends, however, to be the most brilliant member of the family, and although her sympathy with the Penan movement brought her on the one hand in contact with persons who had no claim to social distinction, yet on the other she maintained with supreme grace the honors of her mother's drawing room in Dublin.

The social position of the family was of the very best. On Sir Conan Parnell's side the family was connected with the British nobility, and the best of drawing rooms would have been cheerfully opened to Charles Stewart Parnell had he chosen to enter society. Besides that, the distinguished American family of his mother had given him an additional claim for social prominence. But he never cared for that sort of thing. He found his pleasantest society in the companionship of men, and was fond of a quiet dinner with his maids, where he revealed a genial side of his character which was not apparent to near acquaintances.

After Parnell was graduated from Oxford, he was for a time in more intimate companionship with his mother and sister Fanny than he had been since childhood. It was the time when they were enthusiastically supporting the Fenian movement, and there is no doubt that it is due to the influence of his sister Fanny that Parnell's attention was first called to the Irish situation and his ambition stimulated. He did not agree with his mother or sister as to the success or advisability of the Fenian movement, but he spent many months in practical education trying to solve in his own mind the problem. He decided at last to follow where O'Connell had led, and to attempt to win for Ireland by constitutional methods and by the process of agitation what the Fenians proposed to do by arms. Having his ambition stimulated, his opinions fixed, the inherited characteristics of the man asserted themselves, such as tenacity of purpose, great courage and a power of endurance which was marvellous to those who knew him as a rather impatient youngster. He sought an election to parliament, and his support secured

Those who knew Parker in his youth and college days are now wiser at the revelation which has been made of the weak spot in his armor; they find that his weakness was a way in his direction, and they narrate some rather substantial reasons for such belief. And he has been invulnerable to such temptation as he has been to all others he would have been perfectly equipped, and of actualities say, to carry on the fight until he won it.

— J. C. EDWARDS.

**CHILDREN AS TEACHERS.**

Some Suggestions Especially Interesting to Mothers.

From ancient times it has been thought that schools should be the teachers and children's only earners, but in this nineteenth century of civilization the greatest fact that they can learn from is the opposite. The best educators are those who have earned most; from little children, and the most successful primary teachers are those who can see and feel things as children see and feel them. Authors of literature and text books for children that now know child nature or fact. Science philosophers are beginning to recognize the fact that children just as young to talk can in a few months teach them more about how languages are formed than can be learned by years of study of dead and living languages. Even the physiologists and psychologists are turning to the child for the solution of some of the problems that have so long baffled them, and the practical moralists turn from theories to learn of children how moral ideas are formed and how acted out in life.

The development of the race is epitomized in the development of the child, and the observer may read in the infant what is to be hoped for such observations by parents of children who are learning to talk, will soon become common. Those who have begun

will begin such observations, will send me the record for several months before the middle of next May (1894), I shall be better to compare them and report the result to the readers of this paper. If anything of scientific value is obtained it will be published, and along with the names of those by whose patient observations it has been obtained. Besides the facts suggested above, the age and sex of the child, and the nationality of the parents should be sent with the record.

Those who are intelligent and sympathetic, I study the intellectual, and emotional development of the child from day to day will find it more interesting than any continuous story, and will gain more knowledge of human nature than by reading the most vivid character delineations.

Worcester, Mass. A. KIRKPATRICK.

Dr. Koeb Not the First.  
COLORADO SPRINGS, Dec. 12, 1890.  
To the Editor of the Gazette.

Nearly every great discovery or invention has had more than one claimant, for the honor. Perhaps thoughts are really substantial, spiritual entities seeking lodgment in human minds and sometimes find it simultaneously in different sections of the world. So we may expect to find a number of persons rightfully claiming to be the originators.

Starting as is the claimed discovery of Dr. Koch, of Germany, and valuable as it will be to the world should it prove a success, viz: that consumption is the result of bacilli which may be driven from the system by vaccination, the question whether he was the original suggester of this theory has been raised, not only in the old world—where other physicians claim to have also been investigating along the same line; but it is possible that the first man to publish the theory to the world was a citizen of the United States and not a member of the medical fraternity at all.

There is in the city of New York a monthly journal called the Microcosm, edited by A. Wilcox East, and devoted to what he calls "the philosophy of substantialism." For many years he was considered a great crank by the leading scientists and college professors of Europe and America—chiefly because he attacked "the wave theory of sound and endeavored to supplant it by the theory that sound is a substance, like color, electricity," etc.—a theory no longer ridiculed, however it may be contested, since he has won to its support such scientists as Dr. Mott, formerly of Columbia college, and Dr. Audley, of London, and within the last few months Dr. Dr. Pearce, professor of acoustics in Cambridge University, England, by whom many of the leading acousticians are being converted.

This A. Wilford Hall may possibly have been the first to suggest the cause and method of cure of consumption, now credited to Dr. Koch. I am not sufficiently familiar with medical writings to express an opinion. But this I know, that in the September number of the Microcosm, of the year 1882, the theory is explained in all its details, and the attention of physicians is called to the possibility of curing consumption by vaccination. I copy it verbatim:

"As to the transmission of diseases from parents to children there is a great mystery involved. Yenta diseases must manifestly depend upon the mental organism as one of transference. Physical diseases, such as consumption, scrofula, syphilis, etc., which, as now generally believed, are spread through organic and inorganic media, or through propagating organisms or bacteria, parasites, may depend entirely on the physical substance which, however small the quantity, descends from parent to child, and, by multiplication of such poisonous animalcules, may continue in the system resisting disencumment, and thus finally bring about death. In the case of smallpox and the well-known venereal effects of vaccination, we have a theory which we are going to consider provisional, but will here give, or what it is. We first suppose the virus of smallpox, which exudes from the diseased body and passes off into the atmosphere or clings to clothing, to be living germs of bacteria which in suitable soil, or blood having the proper affinity for the disease, will latent and multiply by throwing off similar living germs. If the whole body becomes diseased, the whole of the person is not in the physiologic condition of a suitable soil, or nourishment for propagating these germs, he may inactivate them with impunity and even escape in a pesthouse without danger. But if the body have the right affinity for the bacterial germs a single inoculation of impregnated air will start the disease by starting the bacteria. Now inoculation (by putting into the circulation bacteria of a milder type) of one's friends to ward off the more dangerous virus on the same principle as a city garrisoned by friendly soldiers tends to counteract the enemy's forces by fighting them off, or destroying them if they chance to enter the gates. Though the friendly garrison is a curse to the city, it is less so than it would be to suffer devastation by the enemy. The same may be considered true of all infectious or contagious diseases, and we see no reason why consumption, scarlet fever, measles, scarlet fever, cholera, and the whooping cough—a lot of which originate no doubt, in bacteria, germs—may not be prevented by suitable vaccine, could it be found, containing a garrison of a milder or less unfriendly type of bacteria which would protect the body from invasion by these different armies of dangerous germs. We need not be surprised to learn that the next generation passes away of the discovery of a perfect vaccine for counteracting the various physical diseases that lead to death, and that vaccination for smallpox was but the entering wedge which will ultimately drive from existence all kinds of contagious and infectious diseases."

This strikes me as a remarkable prediction in the light of recent events. Can anyone inform me whether they have seen this theory of the cause and cure of consumption at any earlier date than September, 1889? A. J. TIPPETT.



CHARLES STEWART PARNELL.







## THE MACE OF THE HOUSE

THE MACE OF THE HOUSE  
VERY POTENT AFFAIR

The One Symbol of Absolute Power in the United States—Its History and Uses. Its Keeper, the Sergeant-at-Arms, and Some of His Duties.

Special Correspondence.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Only once since this congress convened, more than a year ago, has the mace been called into use, and that was when the member from New Jersey reached for the nose of the member from Washington with his energetic fist. To most visitors to the house of representatives the mace is a



THE MACE AT REST.

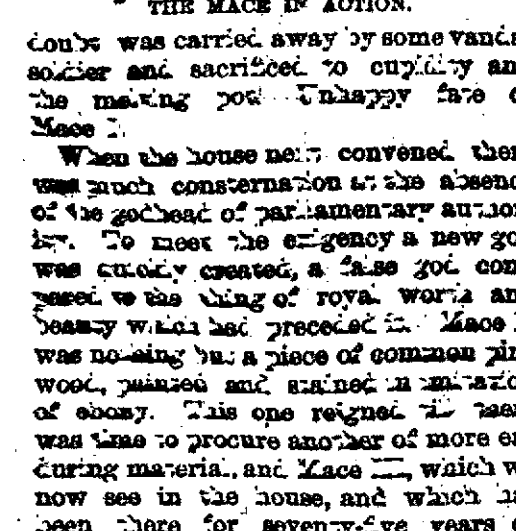
mystery. They see, standing upon a round marble block, at the right of the speaker's chair, a contrivance which looks like a bundle of sticks, surmounted by a ball and a bird. No one pays attention to this queer device. It is so seldom used, and so often seen standing in its place that members and other habitués of the hall appear to be unmindful of its existence. The stranger, however, rarely fails to ask what it is. Lucky, indeed, is the visitor who sees the mace in action. The mace is mighty when stirred to movement.

Could not exert a more potent charm if it were a leathen idol, and the occupants of the floor are devoted. When the mace is taken down from its pedestal, and carried upon the floor the visitor may feel sure there is a crisis. There is extraordinary disorder, a confusion or a riot. As a rule, the mace is not used more often than once a year, but its very appearance creates a sensation. There was never yet a man so bold as to dispute right of way with the mace. All seats are bowed before it; all tongues are silent. And why not? It is the only royal insignia in this government. It is the most potent instrument of ceremony or ensign of authority on this continent. The mace represents the majesty of the American house of commons, and that means the people. The admiral of the navy may have his flag and the general of the army his star, but what are they if the body the mace rules does not support them?

A honor, therefore, to the mace, and do not sneer at it because at first glance it appears a relic of ancient mummery, a meaningless, decorated stick. The pages of our history are full of its past. It was a piece of furniture, but it is really the one potentia, wand in this country, the one inanimate object which typifies actual power.

Compared to the mace the gavel is nothing. The gavel appears to order. The mace enforces it. The gavel is a mere mallet, a sounding instrument, which may roar and pound and rattle in vain. The mace is a silent, majestic force which has but to be seen and it is obeyed. A member may disregard the speaker and express contempt for his gavel, but the mace would frown upon him. The mace would frown upon him who would sit in the house. He might even insult the speaker, for he is but an officer of the house, its creature. The mace invariably commands its respect, for it is the house itself.

When the American congress first met it was perceived that it should have, in some form, a symbol which all men would look in awe and reverence, and so a mace was fashioned of ebony, bound with silver, and surmounted by a silver globe and an eagle of solid gold. It was gilded, crowned and enshrined, and reigned supreme till the British soldiers came along in 1776 and burned the Capitol. Then the mace was destroyed. The solid gold eagle disappeared, and no



THE MACE IN ACTION.

could be carried away by some vandal, soldier and sacrificed to curiosity and the melting pot of the melting pot of the melting pot.

When the house next convened, there was much conversation at the absence of the go-ahead of parliamentary authority. To meet the emergency a new go-ahead was created, a flag go-ahead, composed of the flag of the United States and a piece of common pine wood, painted and stained in imitation of ebony. This one reigned till there was time to procure another of more enduring material, and since then we now see in the house, and which has been there for seventy-five years or

more, is of as sterling worth as the best of its kind.

The mace has its high priest, the person of the sergeant-at-arms. Every day at high noon, when the house meets, this officer enters the hall, bearing the symbol in his hands, and places it upon its pedestal. When the house adjourns or takes a recess he carries it away to its cloister. Sometimes he takes it away when the house continues in session, or appears to do so, and this is something which the visitor cannot understand. The explanation is simple one. Nearly every day the house resolves itself into a committee of the whole house on the state of the Union. Usually on such occasions the speaker retires after calling a member to the chair, though he may preside if he wishes to do so. The committee of the whole is not the house of representatives, but what its name indicates, a simple committee of which every member of the house is a member, and consequently the mace has no proper place as a silent guardian of its deliberations.

When so ordered by the speaker the high priest of the mace lifts the ancient symbol from its place and carries it, held aloft, upon the floor among the members. There is disturbance there you may be sure it will quickly disappear.

This high priest of the mace is also a sort of father confessor to the members of the house. As, if his secrets were unveiled, what sensations there would be in the hall. The sergeant-at-arms has many delicate duties to perform besides that of polishing up the gold eagle. Once in a session or so it happens that a call of the roll, failing to disclose the presence of a quorum, the sergeant-at-arms is ordered to approach absent members and bring them before the bar of the house. The sergeant-at-arms is supposed to know just where these delinquents are to be found, and he and his assistants generally do know. A drinking saloon not far from the Capitol is usually drawn on for a limited number of members.

A few floors down New Jersey avenue, almost on the site of the first manor house erected in the Capital City, a select poker parlor is occasionally interrupted by the knocking at the door of the sergeant-at-arms. In the immediate neighborhood are two or three other dens in which Jack pots are once in a while broken up by the appearance of the officers of the house. Not many years ago three young statesmen were caught in a house on this same avenue in an unbecoming but not reprehensible plight. They were waiting away the dull hours of an afternoon learning to



A QUERR BOX IN A BAGGAGE CAR.

wait at a private dancing school, when the man of the mace rushed in upon them and waited them away to the bar of the house, there to make their explanation.

When a member is called before the bar to give reasons for his absence he is not sworn to tell the truth. It would be exceeding awkward at times if this action were made of him, for statesmen have been taken out of professional gambling dens and worse places by the unremitting but happily secret keeping officials. The man of the mace must have discretion as well as zeal, for it would not do to take an intoxicated statesman into the presence of the house. That would offend the dignity of the body, and be decidedly uncomfortable for the member. In such cases the officer discreetly reports "not to be found." More than one statesman of renown owes his fair fame to the residence and discretion of a sergeant-at-arms or his assistant. It is a matter of general conversation, however, that drunkenness, gambling and worse vices are much less frequent now among public men than they were in the old days. There are no public gambling houses in Washington, and the members who often get drunk could be caught on one's fingers.

Some strange stories are told by assistant sergeants-at-arms concerning their experiences with junkies and funerals. It is the duty of these officials to act as funeral masters when a member of the house dies, and to make all arrangements for transporting the corpse to the place of interment, accompanied by a committee of congressmen. As a rule, of late years these funeral excursions are managed with dignity and solemnity, though it would be contrary to human nature if a few small fags and a limited number of bottles of wine and boxes of cigars were not included in the paraphernalia of woe. Many funeral scandals have come to light through publication of the items of expense, but one story has come down to this time escaped the clutches of the press. It was told the other day by an ex-sergeant-at-arms.

"I was managing a funeral," he once said, "and the journey was a long and tedious one. The committee insisted that I should lay in a supply of whisky and wine, and I did so. But there was no place to store the goods, and no place in which to keep the food and those articles which help to make those things go off smoothly. So we went into the baggage car and there I took up a little bar of my own. And what do you suppose it was we put our bodies on and took out drinks from? Why, the pine box, in which lay the remains of our deceased member."

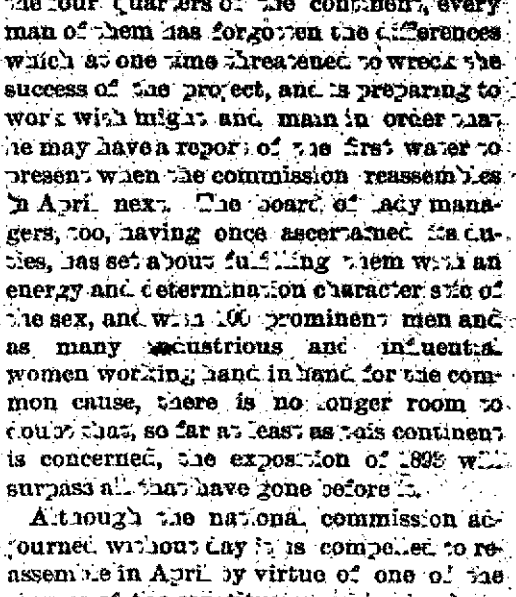
WALTER WILLIAMS.

## THE MACE OF THE HOUSE

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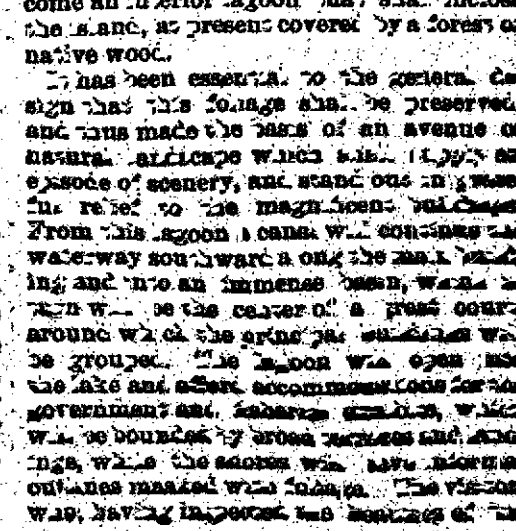
mystery. They see, standing upon a round marble block, at the right of the speaker's chair, a contrivance which looks like a bundle of sticks, surmounted by a ball and a bird. No one pays attention to this queer device. It is so seldom used, and so often seen standing in its place that members and other habitués of the hall appear to be unmindful of its existence. The stranger, however, rarely fails to ask what it is. Lucky, indeed, is the visitor who sees the mace in action. The mace is mighty when stirred to movement.

Could not exert a more potent charm if it were a leathen idol, and the occupants of the floor are devoted. When the mace is taken down from its pedestal, and carried upon the floor the visitor may feel sure there is a crisis. There is extraordinary disorder, a confusion or a riot. As a rule, the mace is not used more often than once a year, but its very appearance creates a sensation. There was never yet a man so bold as to dispute right of way with the mace. All seats are bowed before it; all tongues are silent. And why not? It is the only royal insignia in this government. It is the most potent instrument of ceremony or ensign of authority on this continent. The mace represents the majesty of the American house of commons, and that means the people. The admiral of the navy may have his flag and the general of the army his star, but what are they if the body the mace rules does not support them?

A honor, therefore, to the mace, and do not sneer at it because at first glance it appears a relic of ancient mummery, a meaningless, decorated stick. The pages of our history are full of its past. It was a piece of furniture, but it is really the one potentia, wand in this country, the one inanimate object which typifies actual power.

Compared to the mace the gavel is nothing. The gavel appears to order. The mace enforces it. The gavel is a mere mallet, a sounding instrument, which may roar and pound and rattle in vain. The mace is a silent, majestic force which has but to be seen and it is obeyed. A member may disregard the speaker and express contempt for his gavel, but the mace would frown upon him. The mace would frown upon him who would sit in the house. He might even insult the speaker, for he is but an officer of the house, its creature. The mace invariably commands its respect, for it is the house itself.

When the American congress first met it was perceived that it should have, in some form, a symbol which all men would look in awe and reverence, and so a mace was fashioned of ebony, bound with silver, and surmounted by a silver globe and an eagle of solid gold. It was gilded, crowned and enshrined, and reigned supreme till the British soldiers came along in 1776 and burned the Capitol. Then the mace was destroyed. The solid gold eagle disappeared, and no



THE MACE IN ACTION.

could be carried away by some vandal, soldier and sacrificed to curiosity and the melting pot of the melting pot of the melting pot.

When the house next convened, there was much conversation at the absence of the go-ahead of parliamentary authority. To meet the emergency a new go-ahead was created, a flag go-ahead, composed of the flag of the United States and a piece of common pine wood, painted and stained in imitation of ebony. This one reigned till there was time to procure another of more enduring material, and since then we now see in the house, and which has been there for seventy-five years or

more, is of as sterling worth as the best of its kind.

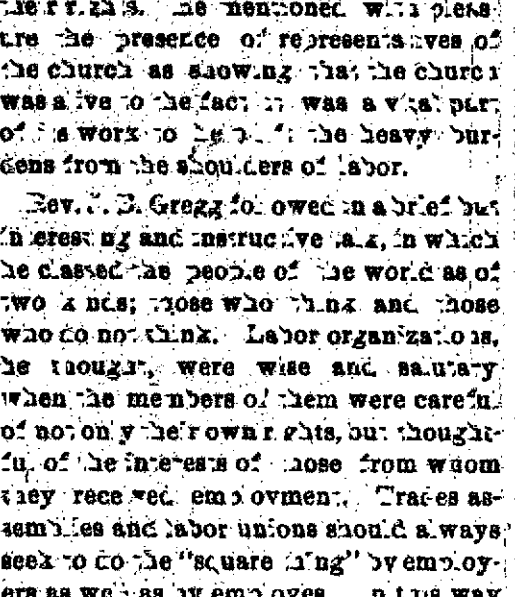
The mace has its high priest, the person of the sergeant-at-arms. Every day at high noon, when the house meets, this officer enters the hall, bearing the symbol in his hands, and places it upon its pedestal. When the house adjourns or takes a recess he carries it away to its cloister. Sometimes he takes it away when the house continues in session, or appears to do so, and this is something which the visitor cannot understand. The explanation is simple one. Nearly every day the house resolves itself into a committee of the whole house on the state of the Union. Usually on such occasions the speaker retires after calling a member to the chair, though he may preside if he wishes to do so. The committee of the whole is not the house of representatives, but what its name indicates, a simple committee of which every member of the house is a member, and consequently the mace has no proper place as a silent guardian of its deliberations.

When so ordered by the speaker the high priest of the mace lifts the ancient symbol from its place and carries it, held aloft, upon the floor among the members. There is disturbance there you may be sure it will quickly disappear.

This high priest of the mace is also a sort of father confessor to the members of the house. As, if his secrets were unveiled, what sensations there would be in the hall. The sergeant-at-arms has many delicate duties to perform besides that of polishing up the gold eagle. Once in a session or so it happens that a call of the roll, failing to disclose the presence of a quorum, the sergeant-at-arms is ordered to approach absent members and bring them before the bar of the house. The sergeant-at-arms is supposed to know just where these delinquents are to be found, and he and his assistants generally do know. A drinking saloon not far from the Capitol is usually drawn on for a limited number of members.

A few floors down New Jersey avenue, almost on the site of the first manor house erected in the Capital City, a select poker parlor is occasionally interrupted by the knocking at the door of the sergeant-at-arms. In the immediate neighborhood are two or three other dens in which Jack pots are once in a while broken up by the appearance of the officers of the house. Not many years ago three young statesmen were caught in a house on this same avenue in an unbecoming but not reprehensible plight. They were waiting away the dull hours of an afternoon learning to

wait at a private dancing school, when the man of the mace rushed in upon them and waited them away to the bar of the house, there to make their explanation.



A QUERR BOX IN A BAGGAGE CAR.

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When a member is called before the bar to give reasons for his absence he is not sworn to tell the truth. It would be exceeding awkward at times if this action were made of him, for statesmen have been taken out of professional gambling dens and worse places by the unremitting but happily secret keeping officials. The man of the mace must have discretion as well as zeal, for it would not do to take an intoxicated statesman into the presence of the house. That would offend the dignity of the body, and be decidedly uncomfortable for the member. In such cases the officer discreetly reports "not to be found." More than one statesman of renown owes his fair fame to the residence and discretion of a sergeant-at-arms or his assistant. It is a matter of general conversation, however, that drunkenness, gambling and worse vices are much less frequent now among public men than they were in the old days. There are no public gambling houses in Washington, and the members who often get drunk could be caught on one's fingers.

Some strange stories are told by assistant sergeants-at-arms concerning their experiences with junkies and funerals. It is the duty of these officials to act as funeral masters when a member of the house dies, and to make all arrangements for transporting the corpse to the place of interment, accompanied by a committee of congressmen. As a rule, of late years these funeral excursions are managed with dignity and solemnity, though it would be contrary to human nature if a few small fags and a limited number of bottles of wine and boxes of cigars were not included in the paraphernalia of woe. Many funeral scandals have come to light through publication of the items of expense, but one story has come down to this time escaped the clutches of the press. It was told the other day by an ex-sergeant-at-arms.

"I was managing a funeral," he once said, "and the journey was a long and tedious one. The committee insisted that I should lay in a supply of whisky and wine, and I did so. But there was no place to store the goods, and no place in which to keep the food and those articles which help to make those things go off smoothly. So we went into the baggage car and there I took up a little bar of my own. And what do you suppose it was we put our bodies on and took out drinks from? Why, the pine box, in which lay the remains of our deceased member."

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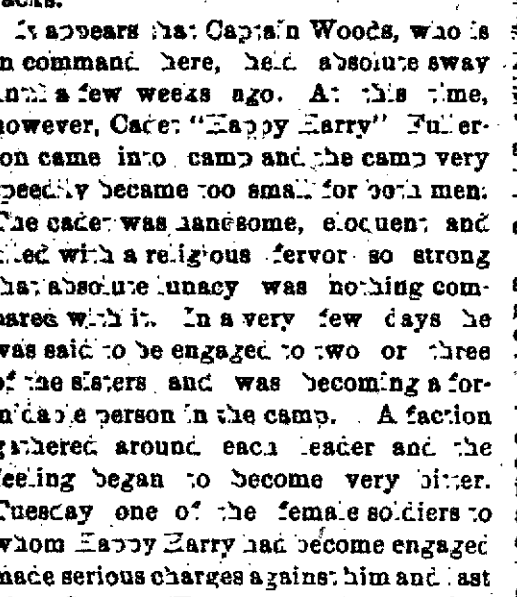
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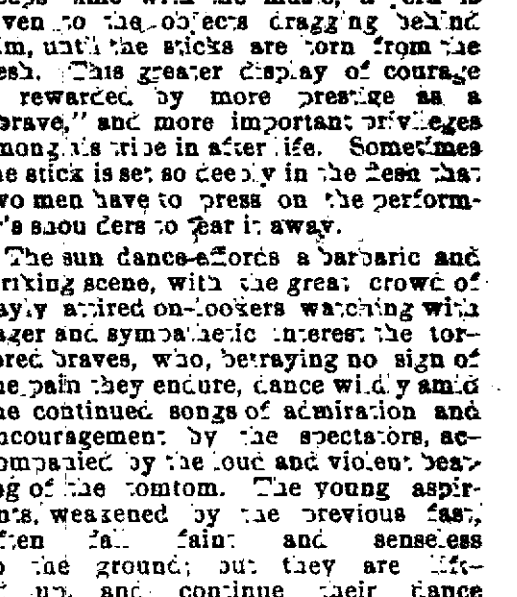
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